

THE BUILDING BLOCK



The other day I had the opportunity to visit the Scott M. Matheson Courts Building. The purpose of my visit was to say good bye to a retiring old friend, and while doing so I happened to bump into another, Scott M. Matheson. The latter was in the form of a bronze statue which had been commissioned since my last visit. I have always held a special place in my heart for Scott, so I took a minute to step over and say Hi and to read the inscription on the floor. The words on the plaque are a quote from his inaugural address, January 3, 1977. They have special meaning to me, and I would like to share them with you.

"We stay only a moment, and then we're gone. While we're here, we should do what we can to protect the past and secure the future."

As I stood there reading this passage I pondered my existence in state government and took a moment to reflect on what legacies I would leave. Did I make a difference and did I understand the past well enough to protect the future? In the late 80's we etched out a position paper, a vision statement, a road map for the Facilities Management Section of the Division. At that time, the agency had antiquated equipment, lacked modern automated tools, and was completely void of any organization or central philosophy of where we were as a unit and where we were going. We were reactionary to crises and folded to the whims of agency management regardless of the long range consequences to the asset. There was no plan, no real thought to the future and what was new was contemplated as something to be consumed by ignorance and neglect, since we could just simply build or buy a new one. Employees suffered from low self esteem brought about by years of being viewed and treated as the door mat of the agency and nothing more than janitors.

In writing this article I pulled a copy of that document and reviewed it. As I read it, it struck me as profound what can and will be accomplished if expect-

tations are set, if there is conviction, and if the road map (the vision) is followed.

Let's look around and take inventory of what we have been able to build. Audits and facility condition assessments are cornerstones of our program and are etched in statute as policy and procedure. Automatic escalators are formulated by law to insure that resources will be made available annually to care for capital assets. Preventive maintenance standards have been adopted and stand as a challenge for program operators to meet. Employees are viewed as assets to the organization and are consulted with to draw on their knowledge, talents and skills. Reward and awards are woven into the fabric of the organization and careers are molded through training programs geared specifically to needs. There is a robust automated comprehensive capital facilities management program in place that assures ample growth to accommodate building data base needs for the foreseeable future. The State of Utah is better prepared to deal with and respond to disaster. Relocation of essential service is now more achievable than ever before. Numerous states have viewed our Facilities Disaster Recovery Program (FDRP).

This program is a state of the art accomplishment, and many are trying to emulate our program. We seek customer evaluations of our performance to improve our program and services. Program manager's decision making has been enhanced as they now have access to real time management information through up-to-date automated data bases that are designed to capture facility and budget information from cradle to grave

The Division took the lead for the Department in organizing a volunteer employee effort to construct a home for the Habitat for Humanities organization from donated labor and materials. Each employee who assisted was given a T-shirt with the inscription, "*From The Hearts and Hands of the Capitol Hill Employees.*" We also raised funds and solicited donated building materials sufficient to build another home. Today, two families own their own homes and are much better off because of this nine-year effort by employees of the Division to organize and sponsor the DFCM Annual Habitat for Humanity Golf "Tournament."

Those who have participated in our tournament know that we refer to the event as a "Tournment" because during the second year of the event, the printer printed all of the golf towels with the word 'tournament' spelled wrong. We decided to make this our tradition, so each year DFCM

held a "Golf Tournment." Through this mechanism, the agency was also able to construct and equip an exercise room for employees at the Capitol Campus. Many of us share fond memories of these activities. More importantly, we experienced the value of giving something back to our community that will stand for years and will transcend time in the hearts of those we helped.

In leaving you, I would like to share these thoughts. First, I thank each and everyone for a truly wonderful experience and hope that you understand further the implications of protecting the past and securing the future. I think the lyrics from "I Hope You Dance" by Lee Ann Womack summarize my thoughts best as I prepare to leave you. They state in part...

***"I hope you never lose your sense of wonder
You get your fill to eat but always keep that hunger
May you never take one single breath for granted
I hope you still feel small when you stand beside the ocean
Whenever one door closes I hope one more opens
Promise me that you'll give faith the fighting chance
And if you get the chance to sit it out or dance
I hope you dance.
I hope you never fear those mountains in the distance
And never settle for the path of least resistance***

Living might mean taking chances but they're worth taking

When you come close to selling out reconsider

Give the heavens above more than just a passing glance

And when you get the chance to set it out or dance, I hope you dance...."

In our relationships and daily workings I have offered many challenges to you as a group and some as individuals. Overall, I feel we did understand the past, and I think we have installed the instruments to secure the future. I leave you with the sincere hope that if you get the chance to set it out or dance, that you choose to dance.

Thanks Jack you will be missed!

**Please join us in
honoring Jack at an
OPEN HOUSE**

**September 13, 2002
8:00am-2:00pm
Room 4130
State Office Building !**

**Requirement for
Attendance - No
Speeches Allowed**

LYNN HINRICHS RECEIVES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM HFS ARCHITECTS

Barry Smith, Principal of Hart Fisher Smith Architects, acknowledged Lynn Hinrichs for his involvement in the High Tech Learning Center at the Salt Lake Community College. He nounced that *College Planning & Management* has recognized the High Tech Learning Center at the SLCC for "Outstanding Architecture and Design in Education." The center will be featured in the magazine's 2002 Education Design Showcase, which will be published in the August 2002 issue of the magazine.

Barry Smith said, "Good designs don't just happen, they are created through the collaborative hard work of the owner, the institution, the architect and the community." In recognition of Lynn's contribution to the project, Barry an-

the students of the state of Utah has in no small part led to this achievement and that he was honored to share the award with Lynn.

CONGRATULATIONS LYNN for a job well done!



NATURAL RESOURCES ACKNOWLEDGES THE GREAT WORK OF THREE DFCM EMPLOYEES

Employees Receive Award

DFCM would like to congratulate Jake Jacobson, Doug Palmer, and Jim Klarr from the Redwood Facilities Group for

the recent recognition they received from the Department of Natural Resources. They each received a cash award from DNR to thank them for the excellent service they have provided to the operation of the Administration building on North Temple. DFCM was contacted by DNR to express their appreciation for the quality work and effort that these three individuals were performing on a regular basis. It was reported that the facility was receiving excellent maintenance service and tenant requests were handled

quickly and professionally.

We often recognize and award staff for going above and beyond their normal responsibilities, but it is always special when our customers show their appreciation.

Way to go guys!





Congratulations to Alisha Mitchell for guessing the spotlight from last month's newsletter. The guess who spotlight from August was Lynn Hinrichs

GUESS WHO???

Hobbies: Being with family and friends

Heroes: My Parents

Favorite Color: Red and Blue

Favorite Food: Asian or Mexican

Favorite Song: Too many to mention

Favorite Movie: Message In A Bottle

Favorite Team: Denver Broncos

Favorite Sport: Football

Least Favorite Food: Avocados

Favorite TV Show: ER

Favorite Actor/Actress: Denzel Washington/Meg Ryan

Favorite Holiday: Christmas

Notable Achievement: Being named to the "Who's Who In American Students" three years in a row.

— For Your Information

Division Updates

FAREWELL:

Doug Fullmer has accepted a new position back out in the private sector. We wish him well in his new position.

DFCM would like to thank **Jack Quintana** for all of his years of service with our division. He will truly be missed! Enjoy your retirement Jack.

Alisha Mitchell has gone back to school after having

worked as an Intern for the Groundskeeper. Good luck second summer here at Alan!

DFCM. Thanks Alisha for all of your dedication and hard work. Who knows, maybe we will see you next summer.

WELCOME:

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to **Edward Gutierrez**. He has been hired as a Journey Maintenance Specialist at the Matheson Courts Complex. Welcome and good luck in your new position!

We'd also like to welcome **Alan Gibson** to Capitol Hill, he has been hired as a

Lise Cappaert will be joining the Real Estate group on September 30th. Welcome Lise and good luck in your position of Real Estate Specialist.

*Contributions from staff are always welcome!
Writing/editing by
Debi Tripp and
Shannon Lofgreen
Additional contributors listed with articles.*